

THE CHRONICLE

D. F. WRIGHT, M. D., Editor.

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DEMOCRATIC SENATORS INTERVIEWED.

In our last we expressed ourselves with much regret of what we deemed an ill-timed letter of Gov. Hampton addressed to Gov. Hayes.

It is with largely increased mortification that we read of the recent public utterances of two of our leading Democratic Senators. No two statesmen have in late days so thoroughly gained the confidence of the Southern people, and exercised so extensive an influence among them, as Senators Bayard, of Delaware, and Lamar, of Mississippi. These two gentlemen have been interviewed by some employe of the New York Herald, the main question discussed being the expediency of the House refusing to pass the appropriations, in case of certain contingencies. In justice to the two gentlemen concerned we ought to state that the name of the interviewer is not given, and we have only his word for the accuracy with which their words have been reported.

The question was put in the following form to Mr. Bayard. He was asked what he thought of a supposed purpose of the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives to stop the supplies for the incoming administration in case of the inauguration of Mr. Hayes. To have the question clearly before us, we will take the latter part of Mr. Bayard's reply first, because it shows that neither the interrogator nor the respondent stated precisely the contingency under which any one has proposed the step in question.

We think it best to give Mr. Bayard's words as reported: "I believe some one has been elected, and if there is any doubt who has been chosen, the constitution contains clear and ample means for solving it. On the 14th of February it does not appear that an election by the electoral college has been accomplished, the provisions for an immediate election are supplied in clear terms by the same charter of powers. When this result is reached, the people will demand and the honorable men of both sides in Congress will see that the person lawfully entitled is inaugurated, and no violence will be tolerated."

It is here assumed that the question will be settled on strictly constitutional principles; but Mr. Bayard must know that very grave doubts are entertained of this assumption. He says that in case of the failure of an election by the college of electors, "the provisions for an immediate election are supplied in clear terms by the same charter of powers." But, however clear the provisions may be, the method of procedure must be described in the constitution. Mr. Bayard is aware that two very different solutions of the problem are now discussed; one that the House should then elect a President, the other that the President, the other that the President should exercise the executive functions until the election is determined by the electors. The distinguished Senator would have done well if he had stated which of these methods he considers to be so clearly expressed in the constitution. His general political principles and associations would lead us to suppose the former, but he well knows that the latter is claimed as the right course by the present administration and its organs, and that on its more glaringly revolutionary schemes have been based, such as handing over the executive to Gen. Grant or Mr. Sherman of Ohio, in either case backed by the active interposition of the army. If his response had been grounded on this supposition it would have been more to the purpose. No one wants to know what ought to be done if a President is inaugurated by clearly constitutional methods; every one is clear that on that hypothesis complete acquiescence is the only course.

But the question which is agitating the country is quite another one: What should be done if the executive power be disposed of in a way contrary to the provisions of the constitution, and if that infraction of it should be maintained by military force? If, in answer to this question, Senator Bayard disavowed the use of force, he would have been under discussion as "an act of revolution and almost certainly of war," we then have the misfortune of being entirely at variance with him. We neither deem it revolutionary with Mr. Bayard, nor any preliminary of revolution with Mr. Lamar, we deem it on the contrary as the constitutional method, and the only one of resisting revolution when revolution takes the form of executive usurpation and assumption of hyper-constitutional powers.

Mr. Lamar says that the privilege has not been exercised in England since 1774, and he might have gone further back; but this is because it has not been called for; it is essentially, as we have said, a remedy for lawless despotism on the part of the executive, and as no such thing has been attempted on the part of the British crown for nearly two centuries, the power has slept for that time. But let a British prime minister march troop into London, Westminster, Birmingham, Manchester during an election for the purpose of influencing that election in favor of his party; let a committee of half a dozen gentlemen undertake to revise the election returns of Lancashire or Yorkshire in the interest of a ministry, and let the aforesaid prime minister and his committee use force to maintain their position, and it would very soon be found that the irresistible money power is not dead but sleeping.

"The safety of this country," says Senator Lamar, "and especially the happiness and prosperity of the South depend on the constitution, most loyal devotion to the constitution." Amen, so say we! But suppose a rebellion against the constitution maintained by armed force—and the man is blind who does not see that this is threatened now—in a case there is no resistance? Is there the constitutional remedy of withholding supplies from an army which is to be used against the people instead of in its service to the still held in abeyance? Is the sanctity of the constitution to be pleaded in behalf of men who are at the very moment murdering the constitution? Out on such pusillanimous counsels! The executive maintains this:

controversy within the constitution so do we; but let the traitors who are proposing to arrest members of the Legislature, if they do their duties as legislators, know that if once they go outside of law and resort to force there are forces against them on which they have not calculated.

That, however, is not the present question, the power of granting or withholding money, most clearly restricted to the House of Representatives, is a strictly constitutional one, and if its assertion should lead to war, as Messrs. Bayard and Lamar both plainly intimate that it would, those will be responsible who are prepared to resist a strictly constitutional action. The ideas so strangely put forward by these two Democratic Senators would be more appropriate in the mouths of Land and Stafford in the days of Charles I.

For our own part, while we are often quoted as *ultima ratio regum*, we look upon a firm grasp on the public money as *ultima ratio populi*.

CONGRESS AND THE PEOPLE.

We publish below a most important letter from Mr. W. Watson to the Louisville Courier-Journal. What he states is what we have seen for some time, that Congress is demoralized in the face of the daring conspiracy which is prepared to set aside its authority, and, if necessary, to disperse with violence its members; and nothing but an exceptional demonstration of the people can strengthen the hands of their representatives so as to enable them to rise to a level with their great responsibilities.

Now arises the question, "what is Tennessee doing?" Four weeks ago we appealed to such as could read within the sphere of public circulation to take part in the system of public meetings which took place on Monday throughout the great Western States in our neighborhood; we called upon our State executive committee to take the matter in hand—unfortunately without success. A few extemporized meetings will probably be got up in detached portions of the State without previous notice, without concert, as was the one in our own County-house, of which we publish the resolutions in another column, but no general motion has taken place throughout the State, and why? It is not that the people are apathetic, we know the reverse, at least in this community; they are intensely agitated and are looking for advice and guidance to those whom they have habitually recognized as their leaders.

We now desire to enforce on those who have been recognized as political leaders in Tennessee, or who may desire to be so in future, that they have a duty to do which they cannot evade. The will of the people demands to be expressed and it is for them to devise means for giving it voice. We fear that throughout the State they have given their attention too exclusively to the United States Senate.

Well, by the time these words are printed we shall have determined who is to go to the United States Senate. Our politicians must then find time to consider whether there is going to be a Senate for him to go to; when they have had leisure to withdraw their minds from the business of Senators, we commend to their attention the letter of Mr. Watson and the alarming state of affairs at Washington. It describes a state of things which we believe to have been understated rather than overstated, and ask them what are you going to do about it? The question had better come now than after the mischief is done.

[Correspondence of the Courier-Journal, EMBURY HOUSE, WASHINGTON, JAN. 13, 1877.]

Congress reassembles, after ten days of useless jangling, to find the situation precisely what it was when it took its recess, and, indeed, very much as it was the first day of the session. Thus far nothing has been developed at Washington, except the fact that the Democrats of this State (cheers) who voted for Samuel J. Tilden (cheers) have not here in the name of 10,000 independent voters who cast their votes with him, and who have met here in the name of 25,000 honest and honorable Republicans in this State who believe in fair play (applause). We have met in the name of over four millions of people in the United States that cast their votes for Samuel J. Tilden (great applause) to see the schemes of the officers who were beaten at the ballot box. (Cheers.)

The Hon. David Gooding was elected permanent chairman of the convention. About this time a dispatch was received from the Ohio convention announcing that General Grant had been elected under consideration which was read out with cheers.

The customary completion of the organization having been then effected by the election of vice presidents from all the districts of the State, Judge Gooding made his inaugural speech in which he affirmed that "if Senator Ferry counted out Tilden and Hendricks in his capacity as president of the Senate, it would be an act of usurpation, illegal and unconstitutional, and he would stand by the House of Representatives and their rights."

The next speaker was the Hon. Geo. W. Julian. His speech was the feature of the evening and was constantly interrupted by the most vociferous applause. It is reported at large in the Louisville Courier-Journal and we hope to give some extracts from it in our next issue.

The resolutions were now presented by W. W. Woolen Esq., Chairman of the committee appointed for that purpose; they were adopted as reported and stand as follows:

concent of both houses of Congress. No State vote has ever been or ought to be, since the foundation of the Government to the present time, including the evidence furnished by the Republican leaders themselves, all authorities concurring in the fact that the Democratic party plants itself, and means to stand until it is driven off at the point of the bayonet. It is for our people to determine, therefore, whether this shall be done. If they will rise in their might, and exercising the peaceful right of petition, will memorialize the Senate to do its duty, to do that which every Republican member of the Senate is committed to, and will send a hundred thousand petitions to the Senate on the 14th of February to present the memorial in person, there will be no usurpation and no civil war. The conspirators will be thwarted. There will be Republicans enough in the Senate to defeat them, and we shall have the presidential result settled by well-established constitutional methods. Otherwise, those Republican senators who wish to do right, seeing that the country is going to submit, will submit too, and we shall drift into a new era of popular discontent, the end of which no man can see.

The convention called to assemble in Louisville on the 13th inst., for the purpose of considering the resolutions. There is little complexity whatever in the situation. All that I have written here may be relied upon with absolute assurance, for it is a pleasure to write such things; but they should be written simply and distinctly. If the convention wishes to do something, let it take ground firmly, and let it, for the joint right of the two houses, fortified as it is by all precedent and having this memorialized the Senate, let it provide for the presence of at least ten thousand unarmed Kentuckians in this city on the coming 14th of February. Less than this will be of no avail. So much, supplemented as it will be by other States, will secure through civil agencies the peaceful settlement of the most dangerous issue that ever menaced the existence of a free government.

INDIANA ON THE ST.

Meetings by special appointment have been held in Ohio, Illinois, Oregon, California and Washington for the purpose of protesting against the fraudulent setting aside of the people's voices in the election of Tilden and Hendricks. As however we have fuller reports of that which took place at Indianapolis on that day we will give an account of this as a specimen of the rest: *ex uno disce omnes*.

THE INAUGURATION.

The city was filled on the 8th, by a double attraction; the inauguration of the Hon. James D. Williams, as Governor of the State having been announced for the same day.

This ceremony was performed in the Academy of Music, the largest building in the city, which, instantly upon opening the doors was crowded from floor to roof with so closely packed an assemblage that it was with great difficulty that room was made for the members of the State legislature and for other official personages whose presence was demanded by the occasion.

The Governor was sworn in by Judge Niblack and after the now ex-Governor Hendricks had made a short address thanking the people for the peace for their courtesy during his term of office, Gov. Williams read his inaugural address.

It was entirely confined to State matters and economy in administration was his leading topics. He devoted some time however to a protest against the iniquitous gerrymandering of the State by which it had been cheated out of several Democratic representatives.

The oath of office was afterwards administered to Lieut. Governor Gray who is also *ex-officio* presiding officer of the Senate.

In a brief speech he pledged himself to an honorable and impartial exercise of his duties as such.

Three rousing cheers were now given for the Governor and Lieut. Governor and the business of the Convention commenced.

THE CONVENTION.

was called to order by Gen. M. D. Manson chairman of the State executive committee. On a call of delegates by counties it appeared that every county in the State was represented.

In the course of his speech calling the convention to order Gen. Manson said:

"We have met peacefully, as we have a right to under the Constitution, to consider the great question now agitating the public mind. We have come here in the name of 253,000 Democrats of this State (cheers) who voted for Samuel J. Tilden. We have met here in the name of 10,000 independent voters who cast their votes with him, and who have met here in the name of 25,000 honest and honorable Republicans in this State who believe in fair play (applause). We have met in the name of over four millions of people in the United States that cast their votes for Samuel J. Tilden (great applause) to see the schemes of the officers who were beaten at the ballot box. (Cheers.)"

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their acquiescence in the justness of the count, and that this shall be at the expense of the Constitution, with the deliberations, to the end that the dispute which now pervades the people shall be allayed.

Resolved, That, according to the plain meaning of the Constitution, and according to all past political usages the power of counting the vote resides in the two houses of Congress.

Resolved, That we denounce the proposition that the president of the Senate has the power, not only to open but to count the vote, as an innovation, which the sentiment of the people will not tolerate. If such power shall be assumed, and its exercise attempted, we call upon the two houses of Congress to take prompt and effective measures for the assertion of their constitutional prerogative in that regard.

Resolved, That if Congress shall provide by law a just plan for counting the vote, and if the people shall be fair, not only in the present emergency, but for all future elections, we pledge our acquiescence in the result, (Cheers) and a voice.

Resolved, That if the Senate shall claim that its presiding officer, like the Returning Boards of Florida and Louisiana, has the absolute power to designate the president and vice president, we will call upon the House of Representatives to exert all its constitutional powers to defeat the usurpation, and we pledge it our support, with all the resources which a people whose fundamental liberties are threatened can command.

Pending the adoption of the resolutions a specially eager patriot tried to get embodied in them the words, "A fair count or a free fight." After a short discussion however they were unanimously adopted as reported.

Loud calls were then made for Mr. Voorhies; he said in the course of a most eloquent speech:

"My countrymen this is not a question of whether Samuel J. Tilden shall be president, or of whether R. B. Hayes shall be president. It is a question underlying all true government, for which our fathers made a hundred battle-fields of blood. It is a question whether majorities shall govern, or whether minorities shall rule by law of force. It is a question that rises above parties and appeals to the eternal principles of republican government, the principles of popular liberty, as directly and immediately as was ever shown in any former issue in the history of mankind."

After this meeting, on motion, adjourned.

The whole conduct of the assemblage was that of men eagerly enthusiastic and terribly in earnest.

LOUISIANA REDIVIVA.

The history of Louisiana since the war reads like romance of the most exciting character; and the news by Wednesday's mail is one of its most exciting chapters.

It is already known to our readers that last Monday, the 8th inst., was the day appointed for the inauguration of both the claimants as Governor of the State, viz. of the elected governor Nichols and the board-returned Packard.

Monday's dispatches informed us simply that the two inaugurations took place without incident, and that the peace for their courtesy during his term of office, Gov. Williams read his inaugural address.

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who was elected last winter: the legal incumbent.

A NEW COUNT.

The legally appointed and elected judges will immediately order a new canvass of the electoral vote, the former one being pronounced illegal, the existing law providing that the Governor, Attorney-General, Secretary of State and a district judge shall act as a canvassing board—the legal canvass will have a large majority for the Tilden electors and they will be commissioned by Governor Nichols.

THIEVES FALLING OUT.

Meatman Anderson and Wells, the white men of the returning board are in a violent quarrel with Kellogg and Packard. Kellogg wants to go to the Senate which is not the Board's game. So they intimate that they have good grounds for reconsidering their canvass, having been deceived by the bogus Custom house affidavits. So the police is deserting, the counted-in legislature is deserting and even the Board is deserting—carpet-baggers in a leading and sinking ship and the very rats are leaving it.

OUR ANSWER TO THE TOBACCO LEAF.

Our contemporary and neighbor the Tobacco Leaf takes us to task for the following words, which we applied to the letters of Gov. Hampton of South Carolina and Mr. B. H. Hill, of Georgia.

We had said that "he take the pains to have understood that whatever may happen, forcible resistance forms no part of their programme under any circumstances that may arise," and then to show that these words have misrepresented Governor Hampton he quotes a passage from his letter which to our view exactly confirms what we said: "It is their firm and deliberate purpose to conduct any solution of the existing political problems that involves the exhibition of armed force, or that made through any other channel than the prescribed form of the Constitution or the peaceful agencies of the law."

It will be observed that this condemnation is laid down without any exceptions. "The exhibition of armed force," therefore, is condemned, though the usurpers should resort to it. "The prescribed forms of the Constitution" are to be observed, though the military despots should over-ride them. The "peaceful agencies of the law" are the only means to be exerted, though the violent agencies of armed force should be put in action by Grant, Cameron & Co. This is the plain meaning of Governor Hampton and this is what we object to. We would rather have seen him take the position which the Leaf itself takes in another article: "It is not idle talk to say that if they persist in their efforts and over-ride the law of the land, as well as break down the sovereign will of the people, they will permit the usurpers to take the reins of government and they will be met with all the force which the lovers of honest government can command."

With these sentiments of the Leaf we are in entire accordance, but we do not see how they can be reconciled with the words of Governor Hampton's speech above quoted.

Allowing for this mistake we do not yield to any one in admiration for Governor Hampton and sympathy with the cause he is so nobly maintaining in South Carolina.

CONVENTIONAL INTEREST.

We observe with much regret that an effort is to be made this session of our Legislature to repeal the conventional interest law. This is virtually an act to render all rates of interest on money above six per cent. illegal. It is an irrational error now doing out in all enlightened communities to suppose that the rate of interest can be controlled by legislative enactment. Legislation of this sort either becomes evasion entirely inoperative or it simply prevents loans from being made.

We are informed that this is mainly a farmers' movement. Now it is quite natural that a farmer should dislike paying ten per cent. for borrowed money, and that he should make every effort to get it cheaper, but an arbitrary fixing of the rate by law will not give it to him six per cent. it will simply prevent his getting it at all.

In all our cities where the people have wide experience in the laws which have controlled the diffusion of capital, petitions against such legislation are widely signed. These business men know that money, which they want to borrow as much as the farmers do, will desert communities where a lower interest is imposed than it can command elsewhere, and we have reliable information that a large portion of the improvements which have of late been carried out in Clarksville would never have been initiated even, unless the ten per cent. law had been in existence. They could not have been built without advances, and advances could not have been had at six per cent. We hope to see petitions from all the business men of Clarksville against what would simply be a measure for driving money out of the State of Tennessee.

CONVENTION AT WASHINGTON.

A very imposing meeting was held on the 8th at Washington, at which speeches were made by Morrill, the Hon. Henry Watterson and Mr. Jos. Pulitzer of St. Louis.

"Mr. Watterson declared his belief that the vote would be counted as it ever had been counted. Civil liberty would be won at the expense of the people under any circumstances. All the agencies of peace would be resorted to in settling the questions at issue; but the people would not submit to usurpation, and should they need a leader, another Jackson would stand ready."

ONCE let it be established that an agreement as to the mode of counting the votes by the two houses is as practicable as it has always been, with a without any special rule, for eighty-three years, and the chief difficulty in the way of an adjustment will be removed. It is the apprehension of an attempt to usurp power that causes the present anxiety.—New York Sun.

MASS MEETING AT CLARKSVILLE.

Last Monday being a day of indignation meetings, the Clarksville people were determined not to be out of fashion, and, though no concerted action had been adopted in the State and no previous notice given, they got together at the Court-house and passed the subjoined resolutions, which, though not a hundred men were present, express the sentiments of thousands throughout the State.

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order and W. P. Keese, Esq., was unanimously elected chairman.

The committee on resolutions were the Hon. R. W. Humphreys, Henry Merritt, Esq., and D. Kincaid.

Spirited and patriotic speeches were made by E. W. Thompson, A. G. Munford and Judge Humphreys.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the people here in convention assembled, that since the proclamation of President Johnson declaring the country at peace and the Union restored, there has been no insurrection in any of the States of this Union, and therefore the conscription of the army in the Southern States during Gen. Grant's Administration is without warrant or legal authority; it is a subversion of the civil power by the military, and is wicked, insolent, and tyrannical.

Resolved, That in 1874 the occupation of the State House in Louisiana by armed soldiers of the United States in dead of night, and the placing of a sentinel at the door to keep Democrats out and to let Republicans in, and the more recent occupation of the State House in South Carolina by military ruffians in order to keep the Democrats out and let the Republicans in; and the recent military occupation of Florida by order of the President for partisan purposes, and the placing of the city of Chicago under martial law because it was on fire; and the shooting of a citizen there for disobedience of military law, are all acts of force, usurpation and tyranny, in violation of good morals, law, Constitution and the traditions of our race, and are derogatory to the nation, and subversive of civil liberty.

Resolved, That we call on all the people of the United States without regard to party or present political affiliation to unite in opposition to a government of usurpation and force, because this is the first attempt since the organization of the government to overthrow civil liberty, and all are therefore equally interested for themselves and for posterity in branding the conspirators with shame and everlasting contempt.

Resolved, That we regard the action of the President and the army of the United States at this moment, in upholding and maintaining fraudulent government in Louisiana and South Carolina, as a violation of the Constitution, and a shameless usurpation of power; and it is with the greatest sorrow we have perceived that the large appropriations of money for the support of that army, which is at this instant subverting in the most contemptuous manner, the constitutional civil power of the country.

Resolved, That we hold our friends of the Republican party capable of an intelligent appreciation of the present danger which lies at our door, and threatens the social and political fabric; and equally interested and zealous for the preservation of liberty. Therefore we have a sympathy for the self-constituted leaders, who offer the gauge of battle settle all questions of order and oppression; and while entertaining the highest opinion of the wisdom, patriotism and courage of the Northern Democrats, we have our own actions and manhood subject only to the guidance of our sober judgment, and having the national heart with us we will not permit the usurpers to overflow of civil liberty and the substitution of a military despotism over us.

Resolved, That we proclaim the old Democratic principle, that a well regulated militia composed of the intelligent and patriotic yeomen of the country, is the best safeguard of liberty, and dangerous to tyrants only.

Resolved, That it is our opinion that the question that now agitates the country can be settled by the application of the rules which have been adopted in the past and a fraudulent election has never been tolerated by the American people. We therefore ask our Representatives in Congress to see that the questions at issue are settled according to the principles of justice and law.

R. W. HUMPHREYS.
H. C. MERRITT.
D. KINCAID.
Committee.

A DIRTY JOB.

It is known that Grant has been discharging the police of the District of Columbia for reasons known to himself. Now, the President has an organ edited by a man named Murtagh, called the Washington Republican. It is the duty of this organ to play whatever tunes the President prescribes, he, the President, pitching the key-note. Murtagh is specially qualified for his duties as editor by his evident delight in dirty work.

When the police were discharged, the organ declared that it was for complicity with gamblers. The discharged superintendent considers this as *peaching on pots*, and hints that if he should take to squaling he could equal to good purpose, as he has done work for the administration that would not bear the daylight. As a specimen of what he could do if he tried, he relates a little plot which was planned between himself and this very editor Murtagh, in the interest of the government clique. It was thought necessary to break down the character of Mr. Whitthorne, of Texas, who was acquiring too closely into navy yard abuses; and this was Murtagh's plan: Whitthorne was to be beguiled by certain fair friends of Murtagh—not so chaste as fair—and led by them into some house of ill fame, upon which the police were to be sprung upon the concern, and Mr. Whitthorne's name be brought before the public in association with disreputable characters. Mr. Whitthorne did not listen to the voice of the charmers and the plot failed, and worst of all, he has been heard of but for this time's quarrel, which brings it to daylight. Bury it again quickly, the nostrils of humanity cannot tolerate such filth.

AT SALEM OREGON.

A large and enthusiastic meeting here; in the resolutions the following sentiments were embodied:

"They solemnly protest against the inauguration of Hayes and Wheeler, and denounce the threatened attempt to prevent the House of Representatives from participating in the counting of the electoral vote as a threat of revolution and a menace against civil liberty. They appeal to all citizens of the republic to resist this revolutionary attempt upon the government by all the means known to a law-abiding, liberty-loving people."

"May they always live in peace and harmony," was the way a Yankee marriage notice should have wound up, but the compositor, who couldn't read, put in the words "may they always live in peace and harmony," which brings it to daylight. Bury it again quickly, the nostrils of humanity cannot tolerate such filth.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

At a regular meeting of Clarksville Commandery No. 8, Knights Templar, December 18th, the following officers were elected for the ensuing twelve months:

E. C. A. N. Sease.
G. G. C. E. L. McCauley.
S. B. B. Burchett.
S. B. B. Burchett.
S. B. B. Burchett.
S. B. B. Burchett.
S. B. B. Burchett.
S. B. B. Burchett.
S. B. B. Burchett.
S. B. B. Burchett.

INSOLVENT NOTICE.

The insolvent of the estate of H. H. Hinson, deceased, having been appointed the Clerk of the County Court of Cheatham County, and all persons having claims against said estate are notified to appear and file the same with the County Clerk, and to be paid in full within six months.

W. W. PINSON, Adm'r.

THE SENATORSHIP.

All the political men of Clarksville have been this week in Nashville advocating the claims of our fellow-townsman Col. Jas. E. Bailey to the representation of Tennessee in the national Senate.

Our readers are aware that two Senators have to be elected by the present Legislature, one for the full term of six years, the other to fill the unexpired term of Andrew Johnson deceased.

The election for the long term was decided at the first ballot by an overwhelming majority in favor of the Hon. L. H. Harris, formerly Governor of the State. Admiration for his great talents and high public character, as well as the impulses of private friendship, render it a grateful duty to congratulate Gov. Harris on this the highest recognition of his many good and great qualities by his native State. At the time when he so magnanimously resigned the governorship for the State at large under the expressed apprehension of some that his secession record might prejudice some Union men against him, and so impair his efficiency, we expressed our conviction that the objections to him came rather from politicians who found him in their way than from the people, and that sentiment is now stamped and sealed by his election to the proudest and most responsible position in the gift of Tennessee. He will honor their choice as their choice has honored him.

The election for the short Senatorial term has been protracted. We give the first vote of Tuesday last and the last vote of Thursday:

	First.	Last.
Bate	34	25
Bayley	13	10
Turney	20	5
Wright	20	5
Maynard	99	100

There are 100 votes altogether, of which 20 are Republican, 2 Independent and 78 Democratic. It will be seen that the first ballot indicated the race to be between Gen. Bate and our esteemed fellow-citizen Judge Bailey; that Bate led Bailey by 9 votes at the first ballot, and Bailey led Bate by eleven at the last. The Independent votes seem to be voting with the Democrats and the Republicans solid by themselves at first for Pettibone, afterwards for Maynard. The friends of Judge Bailey have entire confidence in his ultimate success.

We may yet receive further tidings before going to press.

The Story of the Florida Returning Board.

We print the following from the New York Herald. Its appearance in that paper is the more significant as the Herald has for the last two weeks been decidedly in favor of Hayes:

Our special Washington correspondent gives a concise account, from democratic sources, of the manipulations by which Florida was declared for Stearns and Hayes, and on a recent order by the Supreme Court to draw and file the returns. If this story is true the Returning Board has been clearly guilty of fraud; the republican managers are also guilty of fraud in the Florida election, and the republican managers cannot afford to count in Mr. Hayes by such fraudulent methods. If they cannot show that the vote of the State was honestly taken and fairly counted public opinion must set against them. If they can refute this story we advise them to do so without delay. They had better control of the State's Governor was a candidate for re-election; they appointed the election officers, and they are fairly accountable and must show that they dealt honestly.

Destroying the Evidence.

A Washington special to the Cincinnati Enquirer says:

Since Friday last over a cart-load of telegrams have been sent from the office of the Western Union Telegraph Company in this city to the New York office. Included in this freight are all the messages sent from this city to the Southern States having reference to the recent political campaign. They are to be destroyed at once. It questioned by any Congressional committee as to why this course was determined upon, the officers of the company will hold that under the Constitution no citizen is to be deprived of his liberty or property without due process of law.